WEST ST. MARY PARISH PORT, HARBOR AND TERMINAL DISTRICT

OFFICIAL MINUTES

JULY 10, 2012

6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Ralph Longman, Vice President of the Port Commission. Mr. Wayne Stevens led in the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call resulted in the following:

Present: Absent:

Tad Blevins Calvin Deshotel

Ralph Longman Wilson Terry

Greg Paul

John Lockett

Willie Peters

Wayne Stevens

Phil Bell

Also present at the meeting were Mr. Alan Taylor of Kolder , Champagne, Slaven and Company, Ms. Marguerite Robinson of Teche Talk, Mr. Roger Stouff of the Franklin Banner, Mr. Eric Duplantis, Port Attorney, Mr. Reid Miller of Miller Engineers, Mr. David Allain, Executive Director and Ms. Rebecca Pellerin, Office Manager of the Port Commission.

A motion was made by Mr. Peters to dispense with the reading of the June 5, 2012 meeting minutes and to accept the same as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stevens and carried unanimously.

Mr. Longman asked if there was any public comment, there was none.

Mr. Longman introduced Mr. Alan Taylor of Kolder, Champagne, Slaven and Company. Mr. Taylor presented the Port’s 2011 Audit Report to the Commission. Mr. Taylor reported that the Port is receiving an Unqualified Opinion, which is the best type of opinion that can be provided on its financial statements. He reviewed the report and stated it was their opinion that the financial statements included in the report fairly present the financial position and results of operation of the Port. He also stated that the Port of West St. Mary is a good financial situation and thanked the staff for its assistance during the audit process. Mr. Taylor asked if anyone had any questions. Discussion followed. A motion was made by Mr. Blevins to accept the Audit Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bell and carried unanimously.

Mr. Allain reported that Marine Turbine Technology notified him recently that they are exercising their extension of their lease with the Port of West St. Mary for another five (5) year term. Included in this option to renew the lease is an escalation clause of approximately $1,200 per month for the five year period. Mr. Allain reported that MTT has recently completed over $400,000 in improvements to the property they are leasing and are requesting relief of the escalation clause in lieu of the cost of improvements made and the cost of the parking lot that they will be building. Discussion followed. A motion was made by Mr. Peters to empower the Executive Director and the Port’s Attorney to work out the details with MTT taking into consideration the improvements made to the Port property without removing the escalation clause entirely. The motion was seconded by Mr. Paul and carried unanimously.

Mr. Allain reported that the Port has done several projects this year that the 2012 budget did not cover. He recommended the following budget adjustments – add $4,000 to Liability and Casualty Insurance due to an increase from last year, add $18,662.49 to Office Improvements for the improvements to the rear office and repairs to the two restrooms which consisted of removal of the wall heaters and installation of overhead vents and heaters, add $85,500.00 to Capital Improvements - $30,500 for the installation of a rail crossing at the Port and an obligation of $55,000 for the update of the Port Master Plan for a total adjustment of $107,500. Mr. Allain explained in regard to the $55,000 adjustment for the Master Plan, that it is not certain that this entire amount will be spent. A motion was made by Mr. Stevens to adjust the 2012 budget as recommended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Peters and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Paul to issue letters of no objection for the Hanson Canal Flood Control Structures and Yellow Bayou Flood Control Structures as requested. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bell and carried unanimously.

With reference to the updating of the Port Master Plan, Mr. Miller reported that they set targets for aerial photos and those were flown approximately a week and a half ago. He expects to have those photos in the next two weeks and will compile all of the geographical data which will be forwarded to Volkert, Inc. who is working in conjunction with Miller Engineers on the Master Plan update.

A motion was made by Mr. Peters requesting to expand the agenda to discuss a proposed overpass at Highway 90 and Highway 318. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stevens and carried unanimously. Mr. Longman asked if there was any public comment – there was none. A motion was made by Mr. Peters to support the construction of an overpass at Highway 90 and Highway 318 which would be very beneficial to the Port. Mr. Allain explained that there were two options proposed. Alternative B is a conventional overpass with two lanes in each direction crossing Highway 318. Alternative D is a two lane overpass crossing over Highway 90. Discussion followed. Mr. Peters added to his motion that the Port pass a resolution in support of Alternative B. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blevins and carried unanimously.

There being no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Mr. Paul to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Peters and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

 Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Willie Peters, Secretary